

**REMARKS**

In the non-final Office Action, the Examiner rejects 1, 3-7, 9-10 and 12 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 8, 10, 12, 15, and 16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,432 to Deng et al.; rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite; rejects claims 1, 5, 9, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or, alternatively under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art (APA); rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,223,237 to McDermid; and rejects claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by APA or, alternatively, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of McDermid and further in view of Pfaffenberg ("Webster's New World," ISBN: 0028628845). The rejections are respectfully traversed.<sup>1</sup>

By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer and adds new claims 15-34. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 15-34 are now pending.

Without acquiescing in the non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection, but solely to expedite prosecution, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer.

Claims 1-14 are canceled and the rejections thereof are therefore moot.

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<sup>1</sup> As Applicants' remarks with respect to the Examiner's rejections overcome the rejections, Applicants' silence as to certain assertions by the Examiner in the Office Action or certain requirements that may be applicable to such rejections (e.g., whether a reference constitutes prior art, motivation to combine references, assertions as to dependent claims, etc.) is not a concession by Applicants that such assertions are accurate or that such requirements have been met, and Applicants reserve the right to dispute these assertions/requirements in the future.

New claims 15-34 are believed to be allowable over the cited art whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

For example, independent claim 15 is directed to a network device that includes, among other things, a packet processor to perform a plurality of processing operations on the packets that are retrieved from the memory, wherein the packet processor includes a second memory to store a first portion of a control policy; and a third memory to store a second portion of the control policy, wherein the packet processor is configured to: apply the first portion of the control policy to at least one of the retrieved packets, search the third memory for the second portion of the control policy, and apply, following the search, the second portion of the control policy to the at least one retrieved packet. This combination of features is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is patentable over the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

New claims 16-24 depend from 15 and are, therefore, patentable over the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination for at least the reasons given above for claim 15. Claims 16-24 are also patentable over the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination for reasons of their own.

For example, claim 21 further is directed to the network device that includes a packet processor to perform processing a plurality of processing operations on the packets that are retrieved from the memory, wherein the wherein the plurality of processing operations include at least two of authentication, encryption, decryption,

virtual private network (VPN), or firewall services, which are performed in parallel with respect to the second packet. This combination of features is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

For at least this additional reason, new claim 21 is patentable over the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

New independent claim 25 is directed to a method that includes, among other things, receiving, at a network device, a plurality of packets from a first network which are destined for a second network; transferring, via a first bus, a first one of the received packets for storage within the network device; retrieving, via a second bus, the first packet from storage; and performing a plurality of security-related packet processing operations on the retrieved packet, and concurrently transferring, via the first bus, a second one of the received packets for storage within the network device. This combination of features is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art, whether taken alone, or in any reasonable combination.

New claims 26-30 depend from claim 25 and are, therefore, believed to be allowable over the cited art at least by virtue of their dependency.

New independent claim 31 is believed to be allowable over the cited art for at least reasons similar to reasons given above with respect to claim 25.

New claims 32-34 depend from claim 31 and are, therefore, believed to be allowable over the cited art at least by virtue of their dependency.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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